

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 08447 290713Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /016 W
-----127576 290716Z /15
P 281622Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3808

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 8447

FOR M - KENNEDY FROM USDEL CSCE - SWOPE

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: OTRA, CSCE, OCON
SUBJ: BELGRADE CSCE: DEPARTURE FROM BELGRADE OF USDEL

1. JUSTICE GOLDBERG HAS ASKED ME TO INQUIRE INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING MILAIR FOR APPROXIMATELY 25 MEMBERS USDEL WHO WILL DEPART BELGRADE FOR CONUS AT CONCLUSION OF CONFERENCE IN DECEMBER. AT PRESENT, CONFERENCE SCHEDULED TO END COB DECEMBER 22 AND DELEGATION HAS RESERVATIONS ON PANAM (ONLY AMERICAN CARRIER SERVING BELGRADE) AT 0800 DECEMBER 22. HOWEVER, HEAVY FOG WHICH OFTEN CLOSES BELGRADE AIRPORT IN WINTER HAS CAUSED MANY DELEGATIONS TO ATTEMPT CONCLUDE CONFERENCE BUSINESS AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE PERHAPS AS EARLY AS COB, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20.

2. PANAM'S WINTER SCHEDULE INCLUDES ONLY MONDAY AND FRIDAY FLIGHTS TO CONUS FROM BELGRADE (VIA FRANKFURT AND JFK). DUE WINTER SCHEDULES OF ALL AIRLINES EVEN THE AUTHORIZED USE OF FOREIGN FLAG CARRIER (IF CONFERENCE ENDS MORE THAN 48 HOURS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED DEPARTURE OF PA OR SHOULD FOREIGN FLAG BE AUTHORIZED TO INTERCHANGE POINT AT ANY TIME PRIOR TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DECEMBER 23) WOULD REQUIRE AN OVERNIGHT AT THE INTERCHANGE POINT (FRANKFURT IS THE NEAREST; OTHER POSSIBILITIES WOULD INCLUDE LONDON, PARIS, OR ROME). WE SEE REAL POSSIBILITY OF ENTIRE DELEGATION (WHICH WILL HAVE BEEN IN BELGRADE FOR THREE MONTHS) BEING STRANDED IN BELGRADE PAST DECEMBER 23 DUE INCLEMENT WEATHER. AS DEPARTMENT UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE, MANY MAJOR EUROPEAN AIRPORTS

WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY DECEMBER 25.

3. DECISION ON ACTUAL CLOSING OF CONFERENCE MAY NOT BE FIRM UNTIL VERY LAST MINUTE AND RESERVATIONS FOR LARGE GROUP WILL BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN. IT OCCURS TO US THAT MILITARY AIRCRAFT MIGHT PROVIDE AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM AND WOULD REPRESENT SAVINGS TO USG SINCE MEMBERS USDEL DAILY COSTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TWO STATE - PER DIEM ONLY - AT \$18 EQUALS \$36.

SIX CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS - AT \$75 EQUALS \$450.

FOURTEEN QUARTERS (APPROXIMATELY \$40 PER DAY) PLUS \$18

PER DIEM - 58 X 14 EQUALS \$812.

ONE JCS - PER DIEM EQUALS \$44.

ONE DOD - ACTUAL EXPENSES UP TO \$56. TOTAL \$1,378

(PLUS TRANSPORTATION COSTS).

4. ADVISE.

GOLDBERG

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